

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2644

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2017

Wastage of Foodgrains

Singh Dr. Krishn Pratap

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is working on any scheme to bring the wastage of foodgrains during storage at zero level;
(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the progress made till date in this regard;
(c) whether the Depot-online service has been started to monitor the functioning of Food Corporation of India (FCI); and
(d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which all the Depots of FCI are likely to be made online?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Government has taken various steps to bring the wastage/damage of Central Pool foodgrains to bare minimum. Details of steps taken are at Annexure. In view of steps taken by the Government, the foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable in FCI godowns during storage, has come down from 0.25 lakh tons during 2013-14 to 0.002 lakh tons in 2017-18 (upto 01.07.2017) as given below:

Year

Accrual of Non-Issuable/Damaged Foodgrains with FCI

(in Lakh Tons)

Percentage (%) against Off-take from FCI

2013-14

0.25

0.05

2014-15

0.19

0.04

2015-16

0.03

0.006

2016-17

0.09

0.02

2017-18

(upto 1.7.2017)

0.002

0.002

(c) & (d) To bring all operations of FCI godowns online and to check leakages & automate operations at the depot level, "Depot Online System" (DOS) has been launched. DOS is currently operational at 522 depots out of total 526 functional FCI depots. All the remaining functional godowns owned by FCI will be included in 'DOS' by August 2017.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2644 TO BE ANSWERED ON 1st AUGUST, 2017 IN LOK SABHA

STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR SAFE STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS TO AVOID DAMAGE.

Before the commencement of Rabi and Kharif Marketing Seasons, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India issues uniform specifications for procurement of foodgrains for the Central Pool. These uniform specifications are circulated to FCI and all State Govts/Agencies with instructions to ensure that foodgrains are procured strictly in accordance with the uniform specifications.

2. Foodgrains procured by FCI and State Govts/Agencies are stored in covered godowns as well as in CAP (Cover and Plinth).

3. During storage, the following steps are taken for safe storage and preservations of foodgrains:

(i) All godowns are constructed as per specifications.

(ii) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.

(iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used to check migration of moisture from the floor to the foodgrains.

(iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are provided in all the godowns.

(v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.

(vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are used.

(vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.

(viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff and all senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.

a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.

b) Monthly inspection by Manager(QC)

c) Quarterly inspection by AGM(QC)

d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs Squads.

(ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.

(x) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.

(xi) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages.
